Scheme of rehabilitation of scavengers in Orissa

1698. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their Dependents running in Orissa;

(b) if so, the funds have been sanctioned and released for this project to Orissa during Tenth Plan;

(c) how many beneficiaries have been identified and given assistance for this scheme;

(d) what are the monitoring systems of this scheme; and

(e) whether Government have any proposal for enhancement of Central share for this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the Tenth Plan, Rs. 2.85 crores has been sanctioned/ released to State Government of Orissa under the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their Dependents.

(c) The total number of beneficiaries identified and assisted in the State of Orissa since the inception of the scheme in 1991-92 upto 2004-05 is as under:

(i)	Total Number of Scavengers identified: by the State Government	35049
(ii)	Total Number of Beneficiaries assisted for	
	Training:	6599
	Rehabilitation:	13327

(d) The Government has prepared a National Action Plan for Total Eradication of Manual scavenging by 2007. For effective implementation and monitoring of the National Action Plan, a Central Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has been constituted. Apart from that the progress of the implementation of the scheme is assessed from time to time through field visits, through review meetings and also through progress reports received from the States.

(e) At present there is no such proposal with this Ministry under the existing National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their Dependents.

New Broadcast Bill

1699. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to bring forward a new Broadcasting Bill; if so, the details in this regard and the object sought to be achieved;

(b) whether the Bill seeks to do away with the monopolies, impose ceiling on TV network and similar restrictions on cable and other service providers; and

(c) whether these provisions seeks to control the contents of the programming and its anti-monopoly measures could also entail restructuring of their share holding patterns?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is considering a proposed Broadcasting Service Regulation Bill in consultation with Ministries concerned. A need has also been felt to consult the media in the matter. It is therefore, difficult to give final views or to give a time frame on the proposal.

Launching of international news channel

†1700. SHRIMATI SUSHILA TIRIYA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to launch country's International New Channel on the lines of B.B.C. and C.N.N.;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be launched; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on this?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) Government is exploring various

† Originat notice of the question was received in Hindi.